श्री एम॰ वेंकैया नायडु: आपको बधाई हो सर। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति: क्या कहा?

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Sir, it is with my cooperation that it has happened.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Grant of additional pension

*104. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representations/appeals from the various Trade Unions or individuals during the last two years for reconsideration of granting additional pension at the rate of one per cent per year to those Central Government employees who have rendered more than 33 years of service, with effect from 1st January, 1996 as recommended by the Fifth Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government propose to reconsider the matter in keeping the recognition of the services rendered by them; and

(c) if so, by when orders to this effect are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The representations have urged acceptance of the relevant recommendation made by Fifth Central Pay Commission. The matter was considered in the National Council of the Joint Consultative Machinery and it has been decided not to accept this proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

Cases pending in Debt Recovery Tribunals

*112. SHRI AMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of Debt Recovery Tribunals which are in existence at present;

(b) what is the number of cases decided by these Tribunals upto 30 September, 2003 alongwith the amount of debt recovered; and

(c) what is the number of cases which are still pending in these Tribunals?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) There are 29 Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) currently functining in various parts of the Country.

(b) As per information made available by Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) 38898 cases have been disposed off and an amount of Rs. 9,635 crores recovered by DRTs upto 30-9-2003.

(c) The number of cases pending with various Tribunals as on 30-9-2003, is 31913.

Fall in premium collection of LIC

*113. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that market share of LIC of India, in terms of new business premium has dropped 3 percentage points during the year 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps LIC has taken to meet the competition squarely and increase its market share *vis-a-vis* its competitors?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) The market share of Life Insurance Corporation of India in terms of new business premium for the year 2001-02 and 2002-03 has been 98.04% and 92.16%, respectively. With the opening of insurance sector and entry of more private players it was expected that the market share of LIC would come down from 100%.

(c) LIC have taken steps to meet the competition by strengthening their marketing wing, designing innovative new products, tapping business potential in every segment including sale of high value policies, increasing productivity of agents and Development Officer and aggressive marketing initiatives to project their products and services.

Separate act for Central Economic Intelligence Bureau

*115. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are planning to enact a separate Act for the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, on the lines of the Central Bureau of Investigation;